

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ABU DH 01338 050920Z
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02
L-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-10
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P 050827Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6025
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

S E C R E T ABU DHABI 1338

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PINT, PK, US, SA, TC
SUBJ: PAKISTAN'S POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES AND CHARGES OF US
INTERFERENCE

REF: STATE 100240

1. I HAD OPPORTUNITY EXPRESS OUR CONCERNS AND REACTIONS
TO EVENTS IN PAKISTAN TO FOREIGN MINISTER SUWAIDI JUST
BEFORE HE LEFT WITH UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID ON OFFICIAL
VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA LATE IN AFTERNOON OF MAY 4. I SAID WE
DISMAYED BY BHUTTO'S PUBLIC CHARGES OF COVERT US SUPPORT TO HIS
POLITICAL OPPONENTS AND THAT CHARGES WERE WITHOUT FOUNDATION.
WE HAD PROTESTED BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY AND TOLD GOP WE HAD
NOT AND WILL NOT INTERVENE IN PAKISTAN'S POLITICAL PROCESS.
AS EVIDENCE OF THIS, I NOTED WE ARE CONTINUING TO PROVIDE
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AS WELL AS MILITARY EQUIPMENT SALES AND
SHIPMENTS. THE ONLY AREA THAT I WAS AWARE OF WHERE THERE HAD
BEEN STRONG DIFFERENCE OF OPINION WAS OVER SAFEGAURDS FOR SALES
OF FISSIONABLE MATERIALS BUT THIS LONG ANTEDATED RECENT ELECTION.
I SAID THAT FRANKLY WE WERE PERPLEXED OVER BHUTTO'S MOTIVES FOR
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ATTACKING US AND WE WERE WORRIED THAT IF ATTACKS CONTINUED, THEY
WOULD SIMPLY DRAW CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC ATTENTION AND RAISE
QUESTIONS
ABOUT WHY ARE WE SELLING ANY MILITARY EQUIPMENT OR PROVIDING ECONOMIC
ASSISTANCE IF THAT IS THE WAY LEADERSHIP FEELS ABOUT US.

2. SUWAIDI WELCOMED REITERATION THAT IF USG POLICY TO MAINTAIN

STABLE, UNITED, AND ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY HEALTHY PAKISTAN AND AGREED THAT PUBLIC ACCUSATIONS OF INTERFERENCE BY USE SERVED NO USEFUL PURPOSE. HE SAID THAT PURPOSE OF VISIT TO PAKISTAN, AT ZAYID'S INSTRUCTIONS, HAD BEEN TO CONVEY NEED FOR COMPROMISE, IN ORDER TO AVOID SITUATION DETERIORATING TO POINT WHERE RADICAL ELEMENTS WOULD TAKE OVER AND DISTURB STABILITY OF REGION. HE HAD CITED TO BOTH BHUTTO AND HIS POLITICAL OPPONENTS EXAMPLE OF TURMOIL IN AFRICA WHICH HAD BENEFITTED ONLY COMMUNISTS AND HE EXPRESSED HOPE SAME THING WOULD NOT HAPPEN IN PAKISTAN.

3. WHEN I TOLD SUWAIDI THAT I HOPED HE COULD GET POINT ACROSS TO PAKISTAN CONTACTS THAT ALL WE WANT IS FRIENDLY RELATIONS, HE REPLIED THAT BHUTTO HAD TOLD HIM SAME THING. WITH GOOD WILL ON BOTH SIDES, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO PUT THINGS BACK IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE.

4. BEFORE BREAKING UP OUR CONVERSATION, I TOLD SUWAIDI THAT WE WERE MAKING SIMILAR APPROACH TO SAUDIS. HE WELCOMED THIS AND IMPLIED SUBJECT MIGHT BE DISCUSSED WITH SAUDIS AND THAT HE AND SHAIKH ZAYID MIGHT WANT TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT FURTHER WITH ME UPON THEIR RETURN.
DICKMAN

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NNN

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